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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/873,709

06/04/2001

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36968/248468

6728

36192 7590 07/12/2007  
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, TOAN D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2616

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/12/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/873,709

Applicant(s)

GILBERT, LANNY

Examiner

Toan D. Nguyen

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 April 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-11,19-26 and 28-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-11,19-26 and 28-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 3-8, 11, 19-26, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wu (US 6,275,575) in view of Hogan et al. (US 5,483,587) further in view of Culbreth et al. (US 5,953,393).

For claim 1, Wu discloses method and system for coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences, said system comprising:

a call control engine (figure 1, reference 102) for receiving a future audio conference request from the host party (coordinator means) (col. 5 lines 25-29 and col. 5 lines 45-53), the future audio conference request being received in the control engine from at least one of a land-line telephone via a telephone call, a wireless device via a wireless transmission, and a computer via a web interface (col. 5 lines 10-24);

a conference call database (figure 1, reference 103) having a plurality of entries, wherein audio conference information associated with the future audio conference request is stored in one of entries (col. 5 lines 25-29);

a call facility (figure 1, reference 106) for making audio connections, according to the future audio conference request, to the host party (coordinator means) and at least one participant party (figure 1, references 116, 142a-c) (col. 5 line 57 to col. 6 line 6),

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said call facility (figure 1, reference 106) first attempting an audio connection to the host party (coordinator means) (figure 4A, reference 412 Primary Time and Secondary Time, col. 9 lines 21-25 and col. 10 lines 39-41) and making an audio connection to the at least one participant party (col. 10 lines 51-53 where the telephone conference server then initiates calls to connect participants and coordinator); and

a timer facility having one or more timers for being set when the future audio conference request is created by the host party, wherein upon expiration of a .pre-determined timer setting, the call control engine retrieves the future audio conference request information from the conference call database thereby enabling the call facility to begin placing audio connections (figure 9A, col. 10 lines 34-43);

wherein the call control engine sets up the future audio conference upon at least one of the expiration of the timers in the timer facility, and a polling of the conference call database to determine whether it is time to retrieve the future audio conference request information and set up the lucre audio conference (col. 10 lines 34-53);

Wu does not expressly disclose making an audio connection to the at least one participant after the host party has answered the audio connection. To make an audio connection to the at least one participant after the host party has answer the audio connection would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art because the host party is the most important element of the conference that setup and control the conference call. Therefore, the host party must be call first so that any participants that answer the call can be connected to the host party.

However, Wu does not expressly disclose the call facility including a common channel signaling system (CCSS). In an analogous art, Hogan et al. disclose the call facility including a common channel signaling system (CCSS) (figure 3, reference 124) (col. 5 lines 30-32).

Hogan et al. disclose further a call bridging facility (figure 9, reference 908) for bridging the audio connections between the host party and at least one participant (col. 10 lines 44-45); and wherein the call control engine provides the host party with a meeting confirmation number associated with the future audio conference request, the call control engine changing or canceling the future audio conference request in response to receiving the meeting confirmation number with a request to change or cancel the future audio conference request (figure 15, reference step 1522, col. 15 lines 33-47).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the call facility including a common channel signaling system (CCSS), and would have applied Hogan et al.'s signaling channel in Wu's coordinating server device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Hogan et al.'s system and method for call conferencing in Wu's method and system for coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences with the motivation being to provide signaling channel 124 to transmit call data 144 (col. 5 lines 23).

Furthermore, Wu in view of Hogan et al. does not expressly disclose wherein if one or more participant parties are unavailable for initial audio connection, then said call facility automatically re-attempts audio connection to said one or more participant

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parties unavailable for initial audio connection a predetermined number of times before dropping said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection. In an analogous art, Culbreth et al. disclose wherein if one or more participant parties are unavailable for initial audio connection, then said call facility automatically re-attempts audio connection to said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection a predetermined number of times before dropping said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection (figure 1, reference step 130, col. 5 lines 1-5, col. 5 lines 34-35, and col. 9 lines 10-18).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the call facility automatically re-attempts audio connection to said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection a predetermined number of times before dropping said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection, and would have applied Culbreth et al.'s call facility in Wu's coordinating server device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Culbreth et al.'s personal telephony agent in Wu's method and system for coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences with the motivation being to reserve a room and send a confirmation message to the team (col. 5 lines 38-39).

For claim 3, Wu discloses wherein the future audio conference request includes:  
a future meeting time, a host destination, and at least one participant destination (figure 4A-C, col. 8 line 24 to col. 9 line 29).

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For claim 4, Wu discloses wherein the host destination is a telephone number (figure 1, reference 116, col. 7 lines 2-5 where telephone 116 including a telephone number).

For claim 5, Wu discloses wherein the at least one participant party destination is a telephone number (figure 4A, reference 408, col. 8 lines 7-14 and col. 8 line 63 to col. 9 line 11).

For claim 6, Wu discloses wherein the audio connections are made through a public switched telephone network (figure 1, reference 112, col. 5 lines 12-13).

For claim 7, Wu discloses wherein the host destination is an e-mail address (figure 4B, reference 440, col. 9 lines 12-17).

For claim 8, Wu discloses wherein the at least one participant party destination is an e-mail address (figure 4A, reference 408, col. 8 lines 28-31 and col. 8 line 63 to col. 9 line 11).

For claim 11, Wu discloses wherein the audio connections are made through an Internet (figure 1, reference 124, col. 7 lines 5-8).

For claim 19, Wu discloses method and system for coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences, the method comprising:

receiving a future audio conference call request from the host party (coordinator means)(col. 5 lines 45-53), the conference request being received in the control engine from at least one of a land-line telephone via a telephone call, a wireless device via a wireless transmission, and a computer via a web interface (col. 5 lines 10-24);

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and prompting the host party (coordinator means) on a communication device (figure 2A, reference 200) for audio conference information associated with the future audio conference call request (figure 4A, col. 7 lines 38-50 and col. 8 lines 24-29), wherein the audio conference information includes

a future meeting time (figure 4A, reference 412 Primary Time and Secondary Time, col. 8 lines 28-31 and col. 9 lines 21-25);

a host party destination (figure 4A, col. 8 lines 24-49 and col. 8 lines 63-65), and at least one participant party destination (figure 4A, reference 408, col. 8 lines 38-62);

storing the future audio conference call request in a database entry (col. 5 lines 25-29 and col. 5 lines 45-53);

retrieving the database entry at the future meeting time (figure 4A, col. 8 lines 41-62), in response to at least one of an expiration of a timer in a timer facility, the timer being set when the future audio conference request is created by the host party, and a polling of the conference call database to determine whether it is time to retrieve the future audio conference request information and set up the future audio conference (col. 10 lines 34-53);

attempting to connect the host party destination at the future meeting time via a call facility (figure 1, reference 106) (figure 4A, reference 412 Primary Time and Secondary Time, col. 9 lines 21-25 and col. 10 lines 39-41);



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connecting the at least one participant party destination (col. 10 lines 51-53 where the telephone conference server then initiates calls to connect participants and coordinator).

Wu does not expressly disclose connecting the at least one participant party destination if the host party destination establishes a connection. To connect the at least one participant party destination if the host party destination establishes a connection would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art because the host party is the most important element of the conference that setup and control the conference call. Therefore, the host party destination must be established a connection so that the at least one participant destination that answer the call can be connected to the host party destination.

However, Wu does not expressly disclose bridging the host party destination to the at least one participant party destination. In an analogous art, Hogan et al. disclose bridging (figure 9, reference 908) the host party destination to the at least one participant party destination (col. 10 lines 44-45).

Hogan et al. disclose further providing the host party with a meeting confirmation number associated with the future audio conference request, changing or canceling the future audio conference request in response to receiving the meeting confirmation number with a request to change or cancel the future audio conference request (figure 15, reference step 1522, col. 15 lines 33-47).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the bridging the host party destination to the at least one participant party destination, and would have applied

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Hogan et al.'s conference bridge in Wu's coordinating server device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Hogan et al.'s system and method for call conferencing in Wu's method and system for coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences with the motivation being to bridge the conference participants together on the conference call (col. 10 lines 44-45).

Furthermore, Wu in view of Hogan et al. does not expressly disclose wherein if one or more participant parties are unavailable for initial audio connection, then said call facility automatically re-attempts audio connection to said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection a predetermined number of times before dropping said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection. In an analogous art, Culbreth et al. disclose wherein if one or more participant parties are unavailable for initial audio connection, then said call facility automatically re-attempts audio connection to said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection a predetermined number of times before dropping said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection (figure 1, reference step 130, col. 5 lines 1-5, col. 5 lines 34-35, and col. 9 lines 10-18).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the call facility automatically re-attempts audio connection to said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection a predetermined number of times before dropping said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection, and would have applied Culbreth et al.'s call facility in Wu's coordinating server device. Therefore, it would have

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been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Culbreth et al.'s personal telephony agent in Wu's method and system for coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences with the motivation being to reserve a room and send a confirmation message to the team (col. 5 lines 38-39).

For claim 20, Wu discloses wherein bridging the host party destination (figure 1, reference 120) to the at least one participant party destination (figure 1, reference 116) is accomplished on a telephone switch (figure 1, reference 112 where the telephone switch is located within the PSTN) (col. 5 lines 12-16).

For claim 21, Wu discloses wherein connecting the host party destination is accomplished through an Internet (figure 1, reference 124, col. 7 lines 5-8).

For claim 22, Wu discloses wherein the setting of the timer (figure 4A, reference 412, col. 8 lines 28-31), and associating the timer to the database entry (col. 8 lines 38-59).

For claim 23, Wu discloses method and system for coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences, the method comprising:

receiving a future audio conference call request from the host party (coordinator means)(col. 5 lines 45-53), the future audio conference request being received in the control engine from at least one of a land-line telephone via a telephone call, a wireless device via a wireless transmission, and a computer via a web interface (col. 5 lines 10-24);

prompting the host party (coordinator means) on a communication device (figure 2A, reference 200) for audio conference information associated with the future audio

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conference request (figure 4A, col. 7 lines 38-50 and col. 8 lines 24-29), wherein the future audio conference information includes

a future meeting time (figure 4A, reference 412 Primary Time and Secondary Time, col. 8 lines 28-31 and col. 9 lines 21-25);

a host party destination (figure 4A, col. 8 lines 24-29 and col. 8 lines 63-65), and at least one participant party destination (figure 4A, reference 408, col. 8 lines 38-62);

storing the future audio conference information in a database entry (col. 5 lines 25-29 and col. 5 lines 45-53);

retrieving the database entry at the future meeting time (figure 4A, col. 8 lines 41-62), in response to at least one of an expiration of a timer in a timer facility, the timer being set when the future audio conference request is created by the host party, and a polling of the conference call database to determine whether it is time to retrieve the future audio conference request information and set up the future audio conference (col. 10 lines 34-53);

attempting to connect the host party destination via a call facility (figure 1, reference 106) (figure 4A, reference 412 Primary Time and Secondary Time, col. 9 lines 21-25 and col. 10 lines 39-41);

connecting the at least one participant party destination (col. 10 lines 51-53 where the telephone conference server then initiates to connect participants and coordinator).

Wu does not expressly disclose connecting the at least one participant party destination if the host party destination establishes a connection. To connect the at least one participant party destination if the host party destination establishes a connection would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art because the host party is the most important element of the conference that setup and control the conference call. Therefore, the host party destination must be established a connection so that the at least participant party destination that answer the call can be connected to the host party destination.

However, Wu does not expressly disclose bridging the host party destination to the at least one participant party destination. In an analogous art, Hogan et al. disclose bridging (figure 9, reference 908) the host party destination to the at least one participant party destination (col. 10 lines 44-45). Hogan et al. disclose further providing the host party with a meeting confirmation number associated with the future audio conference request, changing or canceling the future audio conference request in response to receiving the meeting confirmation number with a request to change or cancel the future audio conference request (figure 15, reference step 1522, col. 15 lines 33-47).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the bridging the host party destination to the at least one participant party destination, and would have applied Hogan et al.'s conference bridge in Wu's coordinating server device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Hogan et al.'s system and method for call conferencing in Wu's method and system for

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coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences with the motivation being to bridge the conference participants together on the conference call (col. 10 lines 44-45).

Furthermore, Wu in view of Hogan et al. does not expressly disclose wherein if one or more participant parties are unavailable for initial audio connection, then said call facility automatically re-attempts audio connection to said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection a predetermined number of times before dropping said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection. In an analogous art, Culbreth et al. disclose wherein if one or more participant parties are unavailable for initial audio connection, then said call facility automatically re-attempts audio connection to said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection a predetermined number of times before dropping said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection (figure 1, reference step 130, col. 5 lines 1-5, col. 5 lines 34-35, and col. 9 lines 10-18).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the call facility automatically re-attempts audio connection to said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection a predetermined number of times before dropping said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection, and would have applied Culbreth et al.'s call facility in Wu's coordinating server device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Culbreth et al.'s personal telephony agent in Wu's method and system for coordinating

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and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences with the motivation being to reserve a room and send a confirmation message to the team (col. 5 lines 38-39).

For claim 24, Wu discloses further comprising:

setting the timer (figure 4A, reference 412 Primary Time and Secondary Time, col. 8 lines 28-31), and

associating the timer to the database entry (col. 8 lines 38-59).

For claim 25, Wu discloses wherein the wireless device is a cellular telephone (figure 5A, reference 500) having a display (figure 5A, reference 504) for receiving the prompting for the audio conference information associated with the future audio conference call request and having a keypad (figure 5A, reference 508) for sending the audio conference information (figure 5A-B, col. 9 lines 40-59).

For claim 26, Wu discloses method and system for coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences, comprising:

a call set-up system (figure 1, reference 100) having a timer facility (figure 4A, reference 412 Primary Time and Secondary Time, col. 8 lines 30-31), a call facility (figure 1, reference 106) (col. 5 line 64 to col. 6 line 6), a call control engine (figure 1, reference 102) (col. 5 lines 25-29 and col. 5 lines 45-53), and a conference call database (figure 1, reference 103) (col. 5 lines 26-29), the call set-up system being connected to a public switched telephone network (PSTN)(figure 1, reference 112, col. 5 lines 12-13), and to an Internet (figure 1, reference 124, col. 7 lines 5-8), the PSTN including at least one public switch and conferencing hardware (figure 1, reference 112 where the public switch is located within the PSTN) (col. 5 lines 12-16), the call set-up

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system being accessible to by a plurality of communication devices (figure 1, references 116, 120, 142a-c, col. 5 line 15-18), in response to at least one of a land-line telephone via a telephone call, the telephone being connect to a public switch, the public switch being connected to the PSTN, a wireless device via a wireless transmission, and a computer via a web interface (col. 5 lines 10-24), the call set-up system to perform a method, including:

prompting for teleconference information on the communication device (figure 2A, reference 200, and figure 4A, col. 7 lines 38-50 and col. 8 lines 24-49), the teleconference information including a teleconference data and time (figure 4A, reference 412 Primary Time and Secondary Time, reference 408 Date (mm/dd/yyyy), col. 8 lines 29-31), a host telephone number (figure 1, reference 116, col. 7 lines 2-5 where host telephone 116 including a telephone number), and at least one participant telephone number (figure 4A, reference 408, col. 8 lines 7-14 and col. 8 line 63 to col. 9 line 11).

receiving the teleconference information (col. 5 lines 45-53);

storing the teleconference information in the conference database entry (col. 5 lines 25-29 and col. 5 lines 45-53);

retrieving the teleconference information at the teleconference date and time (figure 4A-B, col. 8 lines 41-62, and col. 9 lines 11-25), in response to at least one of an expiration of a timer in the timer facility, the timer being set when the future audio conference request is created by the host party, and a polling of the conference call



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database to determine whether it is time to retrieve the future audio conference request information and set up the future audio conference (col.10 lines 34-53);

placing a host call to the host telephone number at the conference date and time (col. 9 lines 21-25, col. 10 lines 39-43 and col. 10 lines 51-53 where the telephone conference server then initiates calls to connect participants and coordinator);

placing at least one participant call to the at least one participant telephone number (col. 10 lines 51-53 where the telephone conference server then initiates calls to connect participants and coordinator).

Wu does not expressly disclose after receiving an first answer at the host telephone number and after receiving at least one second answer at the at least one participant telephone number. To receive an first answer at the host telephone number and after receiving at least one second answer at the at least one participant telephone number would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art because the host party is the most important element of the conference that setup and control the conference call. Therefore, the host telephone number must be call first so that the at least one participant telephone number that answer the call can be connected to the host telephone number.

However, Wu does not expressly disclose a bridge facility, having access to a common channel signaling system (CCSS) and bridging the host call and the at least one participant call. In an analogous art, Hogan et al. disclose a bridge facility (figure 9, reference 908, col. 10 line 44), having access to a common channel signaling system (CCSS) (figure 3, reference 124)(col. 5 lines 30-32). Hogan et al. disclose further

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wherein the control engine provides the host party with a meeting confirmation number associated with the future audio conference request, the call control engine changing or canceling the future audio conference request in response to receiving the meeting confirmation number with a request to change or cancel the future audio conference request (figure 15, reference step 1522, col. 15 lines 33-47).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the bridge facility, and would have applied Hogan et al.'s conference bridge in Wu's coordinating server device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Hogan et al.'s system and method for call conferencing in Wu's method and system for coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences with the motivation being to bridge the conference participants together on the conference call (col. 10 lines 44-45).

Furthermore, Wu in view of Hogan et al. does not expressly disclose wherein if one or more participant parties are unavailable for initial audio connection, then said call facility automatically re-attempts audio connection to said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection a predetermined number of times before dropping said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection. In an analogous art, Culbreth et al. disclose wherein if one or more participant parties are unavailable for initial audio connection, then said call facility automatically re-attempts audio connection to said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection a predetermined number of times before dropping said one or more

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participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection (figure 1, reference step 130, col. 5 lines 1-5, col. 5 lines 34-35, and col. 9 lines 10-18).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the call facility automatically re-attempts audio connection to said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection a predetermined number of times before dropping said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection, and would have applied Culbreth et al.'s call facility in Wu's coordinating server device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Culbreth et al.'s personal telephony agent in Wu's method and system for coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences with the motivation being to reserve a room and send a confirmation message to the team (col. 5 lines 38-39).

For claim 28, Wu discloses wherein the wireless device include a cellular telephone (figure 1, reference 142a-c), the cellular telephone being in radio communication with a base station, the base station being connected to a mobile switching center (MSC), the mobile switching center (figure 1, reference 136, wireless network 136 (e.g., CDMA, TDMA, PHS, GPRS, GSM, etc.)) being connected to the PSTN (figure 1, reference 112, a bidirectional link is connected between PSTN 112 and wireless network 136).

3. Claims 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wu (US 6,275,575) in view of Hogan et al. (US 5,483,587) and Culbreth et al. (US 5,953,393) further in view of Roy (US 6,697,341).

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For claim 9, Wu in view of Hogan et al. and Culbreth et al. do not expressly disclose wherein the host destination is an Internet Protocol address. In an analogous art, Roy discloses wherein the host destination is an Internet Protocol address (col. 2 lines 46-54). Roy discloses further wherein the at least one participant party destination is an Internet Protocol address (col. 2 lines 46-54 as set forth in claim 10).

One skilled in the art would have recognizes the host destination is an Internet Protocol address, and would have applied Roy's start-up signals include information regarding the destination addresses in Wu's coordinating server device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Roy's apparatus and method for providing multimedia conferencing services with selective performance parameters in Wu's method and system for coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences with the motivation being to provide an operator of the user device 100 to communicate with the user devices 106, 108, 112 (col. 2 lines 46-49).

4. Claims 29 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wu (US 6,275,575) in view of Hogan et al. (US 5,483,587) and Culbreth et al. (US 5,953,393) further in view of Buskirk, Jr. (US 6,178,183).

For claim 29, Wu discloses wherein the wireless device includes a personal digital assistant (PDA) (figure 1, 142a, col. 2 line 59), the PDA being connected to the Internet (figure 1, reference 124) and PSTN (figure 1, reference 112 where the public switch is located within the PSTN (being connected to the PSTN means), col. 5 lines 10-18).

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However, Wu in view of Hogan et al. and Culbreth et al. does not expressly disclose an Internet service provider (ISP) the ISP being connected to a public switch and the Internet. In an analogous art, Buskirk, Jr. discloses an Internet service provider (ISP) the ISP (figure 4, reference 413) being connected to a public switch (figure 4, reference 403) and the Internet (col. 5 lines 8-7).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the Internet service provider (ISP), and would have applied Buskirk, Jr.'s Internet service provider in Wu's coordinating server device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Buskirk, Jr.'s method and apparatus for receiving conventional telephone calls while connected to the Internet in Wu's method and system for coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences with the motivation being to provide access for users to the Internet.

For claim 30, Wu discloses wherein the computer (figure 1, 120, col. 5 line 16) is being connected to the Internet (figure 1, reference 124) and PSTN (figure 1, reference 112 where the public switch is located within the PSTN (and being connected to the PSTN means), col. 5 lines 10-18).

However, Wu in view of Hogan et al. does not expressly disclose an Internet service provider (ISP) the ISP being connected to a public switch and the Internet. In an analogous art, Buskirk, Jr. discloses an Internet service provider (ISP) the ISP (figure 4, reference 413) being connected to a public switch (figure 4, reference 403) and the Internet (col. 5 lines 8-7).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the Internet service provider (ISP), and would have applied Buskirk, Jr.'s Internet service provider in Wu's coordinating server device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to use Buskirk, Jr.'s method and apparatus for receiving conventional telephone calls while connected to the Internet in Wu's method and system for coordinating and initiating cross-platform telephone conferences with the motivation being to provide access for users to the Internet.

### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments filed 4/19/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues with respect to claims 1, 19, 23 and 26, on page 12, second paragraph, that the references taken alone or in combination do not disclose, among other things, Applicant's timer facility that includes one or more timers that can be set when the future audio conference request is created by the host party, wherein upon expiration of a pre-determined timer setting, the call control engine retrieves the future audio conference request information from the conference call database thereby enabling the call facility to begin placing audio connections, and wherein the call engine sets up the future audio conference upon at least one of expiration of the timers in the timer facility and polling the conference call database to determine whether it is time to retrieve the future audio conference request information and set up the future audio conference. The examiner disagrees. Applicant's attention is directed to Wu patent at col. 10 lines 34-53 (see figure 9A, reference steps 904-914), where Wu clearly teaches

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"Upon receipt of all the responses or expiration of the pre-determined time interval (timer facility that includes one or more timers that can be set when the future audio conference request is created by the host party means), the responses are processed and the processed information is forward to the coordinator (the host party means) at 904. At 906 a determination is made as to whether the final instructions/conformation has been received from the coordinator (wherein upon expiration of a pre-determined timer setting means). At 908 the coordinator may select timed initiation 910 of the telephone conference or manual initiation 912. At 914 the control script for the telephone conference server is generated and forwarded and process is concluded (wherein the call engine sets up the future audio conference upon at least one of expiration of the timers in the timer facility means)". Wu teaches further (see figure 9B): "Figure 9B is a flow diagram of the process 916 associated with manual initiation of the telephone conference from the coordinator's terminal device. At 918 the coordinator selects a telephone conference to initiate and activates the appropriate input element on the user interface associated with the terminal device at 920. An instruction is forwarded to the coordinating server device at 922 (the call control engine retrieves the future audio conference request information from the conference call database thereby enabling the call facility to begin placing audio connections means) which forwards a control script to the telephone conference server. The telephone conference server initiates calls to the selected participants and the coordinator (polling the conference call database to determine whether it is time to retrieve the future audio conference request information and set up the future audio conference means)."

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On page 12, fourth paragraph, the applicant argues that claims 9 and 10 depend from claim 1. Claim 1 is rejected. Therefore, claims 9-10 are also rejected.

Furthermore, the applicant argues that claims 29 and 30 depend from claim 26 and patentable over Wu and Hogan and Culbreth in view of Buskirk, Jr. The examiner disagrees. Claim 26 is rejected. Therefore, claims 29 and 30 are also rejected.

### ***Conclusion***

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Toan D. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3153. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:00AM-4:30PM).


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Huy Vu can be reached on 571-272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.



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